

The Rush County Council met for the Budget Hearings on Wednesday, September 11, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. with Gerald Mohr, Chairman, Warren Norris, Charles Smith, Janet Kile, Marvin Hedrick, Kevin Spilman, Jerry Kent, Mary Ann Beard, Auditor and Leigh Morning, County Attorney in attendance.

Chairman, Gerald Mohr called the meeting to order.

Jerry Kent offered an amendment to the minutes of August 14th adding the title APC to clarify the secretary that was not being funded. Kent moved to approve with the amendment and Marvin Hedrick seconded the adoption of the minutes. Motion carried.

Warren Norris made a motion to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing for the budget on August 28. Charles Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

INCOME TAX RATES

The Declaration of County Tax Rates for Fiscal Year October 1, 2013 –September 30, 2014 was signed on a motion by Kevin Spilman and seconded by Warren Norris. Motion carried. This confirms that our adopted income tax rates remain at 1% for County Adjusted Gross Income Tax and .50% for County Economic Development Income Tax.

2014 CALENDAR

The Council was presented the proposed 2014 calendar. After the topic was discussed, it was decided to have only one meeting in August and that would be on August 27th and will include the public hearing for the budget. Marvin Hedrick moved to accept the calendar. Kevin Spilman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MEETING CANCELLED

Due to scheduling conflicts, Jerry Kent moved that the October 8th meeting be cancelled. Warren Norris made a motion to second it. Motion carried.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS/TRANSFERS

Sheriff Jeff Sherwood requested an additional appropriation of \$4,550 in K-9 contribution for funds raised by the K-9 golf outing. Charles Smith moved to allow the additional appropriation. Warren Norris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sherwood then asked to transfer \$174 from K-9 equipment to K-9 maintenance. Jerry Kent moved to allow the transfer. Warren Norris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton asked to appropriate \$150,000 of the newly distributed highway funds for summer construction. Marvin Hedrick move to approve the additional appropriation with Charles Smith seconding the motion. Motion Carried.

EMPLOYEES' PAY

There was discussion on the level of difficulty and the amount of experience that is not considered in most of our current pay scales. A proposal was made that there should be a committee to study an incentive or merit pay grade. In the meantime, Jerry Kent moved to leave the raises as presented at 3% and part time at \$11.00 per hour; and to deal with individual situation as they present their budgets. Kevin Spilman seconded the motion with Marvin Hedrick abstaining. Motion Carried.

FIRST READING OF THE BUDGET

Each Office Holder and Department Head appeared before the Council to present their proposed 2014 budget. Dr. John Williams and Matt Vance gave a brief overview of the Rush County School System to prepare the Council for the non-binding view hearing the following day.

SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

Carole Yeend director of the Rush County Solid Waste District presented the board approved budget on first reading.

Motion to recess until 8:00a.m, September 12, 2013 was offered by Marvin Hedrick. Charles Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

Council President Gerald Mohr reconvened the Budget Hearing with all present. The first order to business was:

NON-BINDING REVIEWS-the council approved all Budgets, Levies, and Tax Rates with the recommendation that all units remain within the County Growth Quotient as follows:

- Anderson Township-Motion by Marvin Hedrick. Second by Janet Kile. Motion carried.
- Center Township-Motion by Marvin Hedrick. Second by Charles Smith. Motion carried.
- Jackson Township-Motion by Jerry Kent. Second by Warren Norris. Motion carried.
- Noble Township-Motion by Kevin Spilman. Second by Marvin Hedrick. Motion carried.
- Orange Township-Motion by Charles Smith. Second by Janet Kile. Motion carried.
- Posey Township- Motion by Jerry Kent. Second by Kevin Spilman. Motion carried with Charles Smith abstaining.
- Richland Township-Motion by Kevin Spilman. Second by Warren Norris. Motion carried.
- Ripley Township-Motion by Marvin Hedrick. Second by Warren Norris. Motion carried.
- Carthage Town-Motion by Warren Norris. Second by Kevin Spilman. Motion carried. Marvin Hedrick abstained.

- Rushville Township-Township Trustee Britt Buhler was present to answer questions on his budget. Motion by Warren Norris. Second by Kevin Spilman. Motion carried.
- Rushville City-Motion by Marvin Hedrick. Second by Charles Smith. Motion carried with Kevin Spilman abstaining.
- Union Township-Motion by Charles Smith. Second by Warren Norris. Motion carried.
- Glenwood Town-Motion by Jerry Kent. Second by Kevin Spilman. Motion carried.
- Walker Township-Motion by Jerry Kent. Second by Warren Norris. Motion carried.
- Washington Township-Motion by Kevin Spilman. Second by Marvin Hedrick. Motion carried.
- Rush County Schools-Motion by Charles Smith. Second by Jerry Kent. Motion carried. Janet Kile abstained.
- Henry Henley Library-Motion by Janet Kile. Second by Warren Norris. Motion carried.
- Rushville Public Library-Motion by Marvin Hedrick. Second by Warren Norris. Motion carried.

BUDGET DETERMINATIONS

- Judge David Northam included \$14,000,000 in the Circuit Court Budget for Courtroom renovation. That request was deleted from the budget but it enhanced the awareness of the need for renovation and repair. Guardian Ad Litem budget denied for lack of revenue.
- The Public Defender will become fulltime with a fulltime salary of \$134,112. Deputy Public Defender will be changed to Assistant Public Defender and be paid by contract.
- GIS training will be paid from the GIS fund and not the Surveyor's County General Fund.
- The EMA director will remain at the current salary classification.
- The half-time pay for the GIS technician will be deleted from County General and moved to Cumulative Capital fund.
- The Area Plan Commission secretary will be deleted from the budget, but \$17,000 allowed for part time help.
- Election budget- denied \$100 increase for Election Board and Clerk.
- Assessor \$2,000 was added for travel that had been omitted during budget process.
- The 3 year ESRI contract for \$29,000 will be allowed in the IT budget.
- The Commissioner's budget was increased by \$26 for Council Chairman salary to correct a rounding error, 211 phone service was reduced to \$1,000, and RMH ambulance service was reduced to \$0.
- An additional \$10,000 was added to Jail Computer services for the Spilman update with the remaining \$5,000 from Sheriff Accident Fund and \$3,000 from the 911 fund. Two new jailers were added to jail command.
- An amount of \$25,325 was added to the County General IV-D budget for the Deputy Prosecutor.

2014 BUDGET APPROVAL

Solid Waste-Jerry Kent moved to approve the Solid Waste Budget. Warren Norris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

County Budget-Kevin Spilman made the motion to approve the Rush County 2014 Budget. Marvin Hedrick seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RUSH MEMORAIL HOSPITAL

Brad Smith from RMH was questioned on the hospital funding and how cost allocation impacts the County's funding of the ambulance service. Mr. Smith was also questioned as to why the surplus funds for depreciation are part of the hospitals balance sheet and not that of the county. After much discussion, Jerry Kent moved that the \$502,000 in depreciation funds be returned from the ambulance service to Rush County for safe keeping. Kevin Spilman seconded the motion. Motion carried. Janet Kile and Charles Smith voted no.

Motion to adjourn was initiated by Marvin Hedrick. Charles Smith seconded the motion, Motion carried.

/s/ Gerald Mohr
Gerald Mohr, Chairman

/s/ Warren Norris
Warren Norris

/s/ Charles Smith
Charles Smith

/s/ Janet Kile
Janet Kile

/s/ Marvin Hedrick
Marvin Hedrick

/s/ Kevin Spilman
Kevin Spilman

/s/ Jerry Kent
Jerry Kent

ATTEST:

/s/ Mary Ann Beard
Mary Ann Beard, Auditor